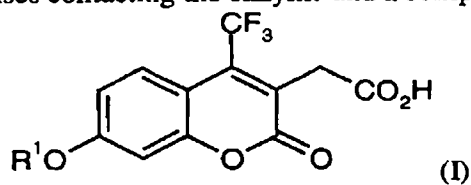


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IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-9 (Canceled).

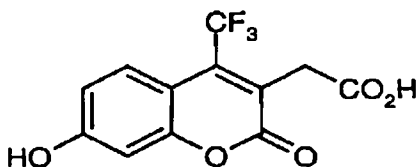
Claim 10. (Previously Presented) An assay for testing for inhibitors of the enzyme CYP2C9 which comprises contacting the enzyme and a compound of formula (I):



wherein R¹ represents C₁₋₂alkyl, with a test compound and measuring inhibition of O-dealkylation of the compound of formula (I) by the enzyme.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) The assay according to claim 10 wherein R¹ is methyl.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) The assay according to claim 10 wherein inhibition of O-dealkylation of the compound of formula (I) by the enzyme is measured by quantifying the compound of formula (II):



Claim 13. (Previously Presented) The assay according to claim 12 wherein the compound of formula (II) is quantified by fluorescence detection.

Claim 14. (Previously Presented) The assay according to claim 13 wherein the compound of formula (II) is quantified by scanning at excitation wavelength of 410 nm and an emission wavelength of 510 nm.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 10.

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Claim 16. (Currently Amended) A process for the production of a compound of formula (I) as defined in ~~claim 13~~ claim 15 which comprises:

- a) ~~reaction of~~ reacting resorcinol and a dialkyl trifluoroacetosuccinate wherein the alkyl groups are independently selected from C₁₋₂ alkyl, in the presence of polyphosphoric acid;
- b) ~~reaction of~~ reacting the resulting 7-hydroxycoumarin with a compound of formula R¹Hal, wherein R¹ is C₁₋₂ alkyl and Hal is halogen, ~~e.g. iodine or bromine~~; and
- c) ~~ester hydrolysis~~ hydrolyzing to give the acid of formula (I).

Claims 17-20 (Canceled without prejudice to their further prosecution in one or more continuation applications).

Claim 21. (New) A process for the production of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 15 which comprises:

- a) reacting resorcinol and a dialkyl trifluoroacetosuccinate wherein the alkyl groups are independently selected from C₁₋₂ alkyl, in the presence of polyphosphoric acid;
- b) reacting the resulting 7-hydroxycoumarin with a compound of formula R¹Hal, wherein R¹ is C₁₋₂ alkyl and Hal is a halogen selected from iodine or bromine; and
- c) hydrolyzing to give the acid of formula (I).